

Please add new claims 13 and 14 as follows:

- A 2
13. (New) The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α -galactosidase .
14. (New) The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.
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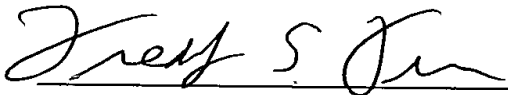
REMARKS

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. Claims 1-14 are pending. No new matter has been added. Applicant includes a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment, and a clean copy of all pending claims. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested

Please grant any required extensions of time and charge any fees due in connection with this response to our deposit account no. 04-1425 with reference to Docket No. 12351.00.

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Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Prior to claim 1, the word "Claims" has been deleted and a phrase has been inserted as follows:

-- What is claimed is: --

Claims 1-12 have been amended as follows:

1 (Once Amended) A method for [the measurement of the]measuring a concentration of a material in a solution, the method comprising the steps of:

- i [measurement of the]measuring an optical rotation of a solution sample;
- ii [treatment of]treating the solution sample with a reactive agent[,]that is reactive with the material[,] and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
- iii [measurement of]measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
- iv [calculation of]calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

2 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the material is measured [within]in a sugar solution.

3 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the material is optically active.

4 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to claim 3, wherein the material is dextran or raffinose.

5 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to claim 4, wherein the material is dextran and the reactive agent is dextranase.

6 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to [any preceding] claim 1, [additionally]further comprising [an additional treatment step with a further]a step of treating the sample with a second reactive agent.

7 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is provided in a context of a solid support.

8 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the sample is purified with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns prior to polarimetric analysis.

9 (Once Amended) Ddextranase or α -galactosidase [in the context of]that is attached to a solid support[,]and is suitable for use as the reactive agent in the method of claim[s] 1[-8].

10 (Once Amended) A kit for [the assay of the]determining a concentration of a material in a solution according to [any of claims 1-8]the method of claim 1, the kit comprising [at least] an agent reactive with the [optically active] material.

11 (Once Amended) A method for [the]a polarimetric analysis of a solution sample at near IR wavelengths, the method comprising the steps of:

i treating the solution sample with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns;

ii measuring an optical rotation of the solution sample;

iii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;

iv measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and

v calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.
[wherein the solution sample is pre-treated with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns before optical activity is measured.]

12 (Once Amended) [A]The method according to claim 11, wherein the diatomaceous earth is Filter Cel E grade Celite[,]or a functional equivalent.

New claims 13 and 14 have been added as follows:

13. (New) The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α -galactosidase .

14. (New) The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.

PENDING CLAIMS

- 1 (Once Amended) A method for measuring a concentration of a material in a solution, the method comprising the steps of:
 - i measuring an optical rotation of a solution sample;
 - ii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
 - iii measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
 - iv calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.
- 2 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the material is measured in a sugar solution.
- 3 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the material is optically active.
- 4 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the material is dextran or raffinose.
- 5 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the material is dextran and the reactive agent is dextranase.
- 6 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of treating the sample with a second reactive agent.
- 7 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is provided in a context of a solid support.
- 8 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is purified with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns prior to polarimetric analysis.
- 9 (Once Amended) Dextranase or α -galactosidase that is attached to a solid support and is suitable for use as the reactive agent in the method of claim 1.
- 10 (Once Amended) A kit for determining a concentration of a material in a solution according to the method of claim 1, the kit comprising an agent reactive with the material.

11 (Once Amended) A method for a polarimetric analysis of a solution sample at near IR wavelengths, the method comprising the steps of:

- i treating the solution sample with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns;
- ii measuring an optical rotation of the solution sample;
- iii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
- iv measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
- v calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

12 (Once Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the diatomaceous earth is Filter Cel E grade Celite or a functional equivalent.

13. (New) The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α -galactosidase .

14. (New) The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.